



2025年度 後期

高3 英語総合 SA

〔第6講 テストゼミ〕

解答時間 30分

生徒氏名 []

担当講師 []

【1】 次の文章を読んで、問 1～3 に答えなさい。

Today, there are about 6,500 languages and half of those are under threat of extinction within 50 to 100 years. This is a social, cultural and scientific disaster because languages express the unique knowledge, history and worldview of their communities; and each language is a specially evolved variation of the human capacity for communication.

Languages become endangered for at least two reasons. They are endangered when the people who speak them are in danger. The Pirahãs* are, for instance, down to less than four hundred speakers. They are a fragile people because they have little resistance to outside diseases and are being exposed more and more to the outside world, often with the government of Brazil exercising little effective control over who enters their reservation. So the Pirahã language is endangered because the Pirahã people are endangered — their survival as a people is (A).

Another reason that languages become endangered is what we might call the effect of “market forces” or natural selection. The speakers of some minority languages, such as Irish, Diegueño*, Banawá*, and others, begin to switch to national languages (English, Portuguese, and so on) because it is economically (B) to do so. Banawá speakers of Brazil move off their land to work for Brazilians because they have come to rely on industrialized goods. This in turn places them in environments where speaking their own language can make them the object of ridicule, and where, in any case, Portuguese is the only language that is useful for working with Brazilians. So Banawá has begun to (C).

In this second sense, however, the Pirahã language is not endangered because the Pirahãs are not interested in using Portuguese, or any other language, at all. Certainly they feel (D) to stop speaking Pirahã in favor of any other language.

What is the loss to those of us who don't speak the language that has disappeared? Is there really any loss to us? Clearly there is.

The number of languages actually spoken in the world at a given moment of human history is but a small fragment of the perhaps infinitely large total number of possible human languages. A language is a ⁽¹⁾repository of specialized cultural experiences. When a language is lost, we lose the knowledge of that language's words and grammar. Such knowledge can never be recovered if the language has not been studied or recorded. ⁽²⁾Not all of this knowledge is of immediate practical benefit, of course, but all of it is vital in teaching us different ways of thinking about life, of approaching our day-to-day existence on planet Earth.

One of the groups I have studied in addition to the Pirahãs is the Banawás, one of the Amazonian Indian peoples that make *curare*, a fast-acting and deadly strychnine-based* poison used on blowgun darts and arrows. The ability to make this poison is the result of centuries of lore* and experimentation, encoded in the Banawás' language in the terms for plants and procedures. ⁽³⁾All this is in danger of being lost, as the last seventy remaining Banawá speakers gradually switch to Portuguese.

For many people, like the Banawás, the loss of their language brings loss of identity and sense of community, loss of traditional spirituality, and even loss of the will to live. To save

languages like Banawá, Pirahã, and thousands of others around the world will require a massive effort by linguists, anthropologists, and other interested individuals. We need, at a minimum, to identify which languages are endangered around the world, to learn enough about each of them to produce a dictionary, a grammar, and a written form of the language, to train native speakers of these languages as teachers and linguists, and to secure government support for protecting and respecting these languages and their speakers. This is a ⁽⁴⁾daunting task, but a vital one.

注

Pirahã(s) (アマゾン地方に暮らす)ピラハン族, ピラハン語;

Diegueño ディエゲーニョ語(アメリカ先住民の言語の一つ);

Banawá (アマゾン地方に暮らす)バナワ族, バナワ語;

strychnine-based ストリキニーネを主成分とする;

lore 伝承(による知識)

問1 空所(A)～(D)に入れるのに最も適切な語(句)を, それぞれ(ア)～(エ)の中から一つ選び, 記号で答えなさい。

(A)

(ア) controlled (イ) expected (ウ) secured (エ) threatened

(B)

(ア) advantageous (イ) cooperative (ウ) recessive

(エ) threatening

(C)

(ア) change (イ) disappear (ウ) expand (エ) thrive

(D)

(ア) an impulse (イ) it necessary (ウ) it their duty (エ) no pressure

問2 下線部(1), (4)が表す意味に最も近いものを, それぞれ(a)～(d)の中から一つ選び, 記号で答えなさい。

(1) repository

(a) danger (b) recovery (c) storage (d) variation

(4) daunting

(a) fruitful (b) laborious (c) stimulating (d) trivial

問3 下線部(2), (3)を日本語に訳しなさい。

氏名 []

【1】

問1(20点)

A	B	C	D
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問2(10点)

(1)	(4)
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問3(30点)

(2)

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(3)

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